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SOURCE Wen-hui Pao.

CHEMICAL AND POWER INDUSTRIES SHOW UPSWING IN NORTHEAST

CHEMICAL INDUSTRY RESUMES PRODUCTION -- Wen-hui Pao, 12 May 49

More than two thirds of the chemical industries in Manchuria have resumed production in whole or in part and many are exceeding their output as compared to the period of IMT management.

Caustic soda and bleaching-powder plants in Shen-yang (Mukden) are now able to supply most of the needs of the Northeast paper industry and are producing a greater quantity of better quality products.

Work has been resumed in the extraction of oil shales at Fu-shun where the deposits are estimated at about 540 million tons containing about 5.5 percent oil. The shale-oil plants of Fu-shun are now producing gasoline, kerosene, lubricating oils, paraffin, etc. It is said that crude-oil output now exceeds 50 percent more than in KMT period while the production of sulphuric acid has been doubled.

The electrochemical works at Mao-tzu-wo, near Kirin, are now engaged in producing large quantities of potassium chloride and phosphorus trisulphide, and plans are being made to start production of other chemicals required by industries, such as drugs, rubber, dye, explosives, fertilizers, etc.

All chemical industries in the Northeast, excepting those at Fu-chun and An-shan, are under supervision of the Chemical Control Section of the Ministry of Industry, Northeast Executive Committee. This section is now concentrating on production of basic substances, such as fats, oil extracted from coal, sulphuric acid, caustic soda, etc.

The rich resources of the Northeast afford great possibility for development of chemical industries. As an example, Chin-hsi has more raw materials than its sulphuric acid plant can consume; therefore, it is planning to establish a saltworks for manufacturing table and cooking salt by electrolysis.

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ELECTRIC INDUSTRY DOUBLES OUTPUT -- Wen-hui Pao, 15 May 49

Despite many difficulties, the power output of Northeast has been double that of a year ago. Nearly 100,000 kilovolts have been added while some 1,500 kilometers of high-tension lines have been installed. Thermal capacity has been increased by more than 150 percent, of which 78 percent is being used by industries and mines.

Plans are being made to increase the 1948 output 100 percent by the end of 1949. The target is to add 40,000 kilowatts; restore or add 39 large transformers; add 38 kilometers of new lines; and repair 1,000 kilometers of old power lines. For purpose of economy, arrangements are being made to curtail the supply of electricity to nonessential industries in case of any emergency, and to repair installations to reduce the loss of electric energy.

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